



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# News Release

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture  
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**Results** of a recent survey are contained in this release. You can also find it on our site at [www.nass.usda.gov/pa/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/pa/) and click on the Pennsylvania Publications link.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Pennsylvania's September Yield Forecast

HARRISBURG, PA, Sep 15, 2008 - - Based on crop conditions as of September 1, estimates of Pennsylvania's 2008 production of Maryland-type tobacco is expected to be above last year, while production of corn for grain, soybeans, burley, and Pennsylvania Seedleaf tobacco is expected to be lower than a year ago according to the Pennsylvania field office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

The corn for grain yield is estimated at 122 bushels per acre, eight bushels lower than the August 1 forecast, and down 6 bushels from last year's average yield of 128 bushels per acre. With acreage for harvest currently estimated at 950,000, the resulting production is expected to be 115.9 million bushels, down 8 percent from a year ago.

The soybean yield is estimated at 39 bushels per acre, down 3 bushels from the August 1 forecast, and down 2 bushels from last year's yield of 41 bushels per acre. With acreage for harvest currently estimated at 440,000, the resulting production is expected to be 17.16 million bushels, down just slightly from last year.

The Maryland-type tobacco yield was estimated at 1,900 pounds per acre, 200 pounds per acre lower than a year ago. With acreage for harvest estimated at 1,800, the resulting production of 3.4 million pounds will be 48 percent above last year. The Pennsylvania Seedleaf tobacco yield was estimated at 2,200 pounds per acre, down 100 pounds per acre from last year. With acreage for harvest estimated at 1,800 acres, the resulting production of 3.96 million pounds would be 4 percent below last year. The Burley tobacco yield is estimated at 2,250 pounds per acre. With acres for harvest estimated at 4,300, the resulting production would be 9.68 million pounds which is a 10 percent decrease from the previous year.

Corn production in the United States is forecast at 12.1 billion bushels, down 2 percent from last month, and 8 percent below 2007. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 152.3 bushels per acre, down 2.7 bushels from August but 1.2 bushels above last year. If realized, yield will be the second highest on record, behind 2004, while production will be the second largest, behind last year. Yield forecasts are lower than last month across the northern and eastern Corn Belt and the Ohio and Tennessee Valleys where the lack of rainfall during August reduced soil moisture supplies and stressed the crop. Yield prospects also decreased across much of the middle Mississippi Valley and adjacent areas of the Great Plains as dry weather during August eliminated soil moisture surpluses.

Soybean production is forecast at 2.93 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the August forecast but up 13 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the fourth largest production on record. Based on September 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 40.0 bushels per acre, down 0.5 bushel from last month and down 1.2 bushels from 2007. Compared with last month, yields are forecast lower or unchanged in the mid-Atlantic States, the central and eastern Corn Belt, Louisiana, Nebraska, and South Dakota. Yields increased or are unchanged from the August 1 forecast across the Southeast and the remainder of the Great Plains. Area for harvest in the U.S. is forecast at 73.3 million acres, unchanged from last month but up 17 percent from 2007.

Tobacco production is forecast at 815 million pounds, 2 percent above the August 1 forecast and up 4 percent from 2007. Area for harvest is forecast at 356,040 acres, up 2 percent from the previous forecast, and slightly above last year. Yields for 2008 are expected to average 2,289 pounds per acre, 18 pounds higher than the August forecast, and 98 pounds above last year.

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